



Thursday

November 7

Pre-Conference Sessions

7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

REGISTRATION OPEN
Room TBD

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM

BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

LEAD TO SUCCEED
Michigan EF

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

TIPS & TOOLS FOR EXEL, WORD, ETC
Michigan GH

Practical tips and tools for effective use of Excel and Word for the office. Bring your laptops!

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

PUTTING TOGETHER THE LOCAL PURCHASING PUZZLE

Michigan CD

A deep dive with Chef/Director Bertrand Weber into Value-Based Decisions that will directly impact your district's procurement, menu design, and scratch cooking initiatives. This interactive session will focus on value-based decisions to ensure that purchasing choices, menu planning, and recipes align with your district's nutritional goals, budget constraints, and local purchasing values.

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

HYBRID 105
Michigan EF

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

#415 INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
Michigan GH

1:00 PM - 5:30 PM

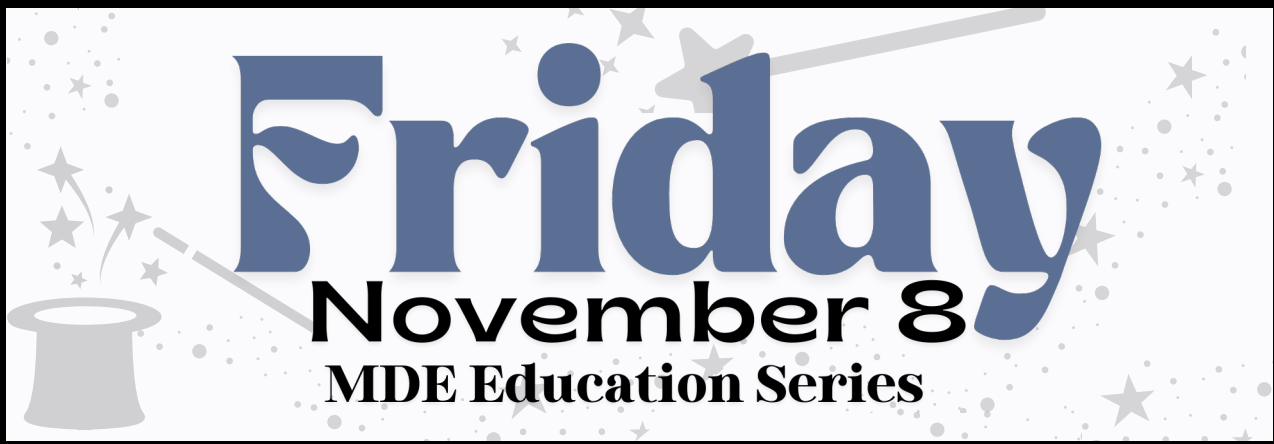
FARM TO PROGRAM - LEELENAU PENINSULA BUS TOUR
Offsite

Join us on a bus tour of Leelanau farms that supply our local schools with Michigan produce. An opportunity to learn how food safety, crop planning, and purchasing come together to support local food for school meals.

6:00 PM

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

**Please be aware that pre-conference sessions require pre-registration and may involve an additional fee on top of the general conference registration cost.



Friday

November 8

MDE Education Series

7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

REGISTRATION OPEN

Room TBD

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Michigan Ballroom

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

PRESCHOOL MEAL PATTERN

Michigan CD

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

CONJURING CLARITY IN FINANCIAL REPORTING AND STATE AID

Michigan GH

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

TRAUMA INFORMED LANGUAGE ABOUT FOOD

Michigan EF

How can the language we use about food unintentionally have a negative impact on our students and on their willingness to try new foods? This session will help bring some perspective on how your own experience and bias may be affecting the way you talk about food in the cafeteria or classroom. Join us to do some self-reflection and learn some strategies to strengthen your trauma-informed approach.

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

DEMYSTIFYING PROCUREMENT - BACK TO BASICS

Director's Room

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

MENU PLANNING AND OVS - FOCUS ON FINAL RULE

Council Room

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

LEARN MORE ABOUT CONSORTIA: SPARC

Club Room

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

MAXIMIZE RELATIONSHIPS WITH CULINARY TECH EDUCATION (CTE)

Level 17

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM

CREATING A SUSTAINABLE HEALTHY TOMORROW: THE MAGIC OF INCLUSIVE SCHOOL NUTRITION (FOCUS GROUP)

Northwoods

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

PROVIDING MEALS AND SNACKS TO GSRP AND OTHER PRESCHOOL CLASSROOMS

Michigan CD

Governor Whitmer's PreK for All initiative is rapidly expanding, bringing universal PreK closer to reality in Michigan. A key feature of GSRP is providing free nutritious meals and snacks to all enrolled children, regardless of income. How does this look in your school? How are these meals and snacks provided and funded? Discover the facts about food service for GSRP classrooms and its vital role in PreK for All. Interested? Check out the additional GSRP sessions on Saturday!

Friday, November 8

Continued

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

ABRACADABRA! RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REVIEWS ARE BACK!

Michigan GH

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

DATA WIZARDRY

Michigan EF

Learn about Farm to School funding opportunities and best practices from the results of previous grants. A review of 2023 USDA Farm to School Census, Michigan Local Food for Schools (LFS) purchases, 10 Cents a Meal 2024, Lake Michigan School Food System Innovation Hub Projects in Michigan and an update on new 2025 USDA Farm to School Grants.

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

PROCUREMENT REVIEWS - MASTER THE TRICKS AND BEST PRACTICES

Director's Room

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

COMMON AR FINDINGS

Council Room

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS - HOT TOPICS

Club Room

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

LEARN MORE ABOUT CONSORTIA: GLC

Level 17

9:30 AM - 10:15 AM

FOCUS GROUP: RURAL NON-CONGREGATE

Northwoods

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

MICHIGAN SCHOOL MEALS AND STATE SUPPLEMENTAL CALCULATIONS, CLAIMS, AND PAYMENTS

Michigan GH

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

10 CENTS A MEAL GRANTEE LISTENING SESSION

Michigan EF

Share your experiences and suggestions for growing the program. Including a demo of our Taste Test Guide for Community Stakeholders.

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

THE FASCINATING WORLD OF FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT

Director's Room

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

NSLP PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS & TRAINING YOUR TEAM FOR SUCCESS

Council Room

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

NO KID HUNGRY - INITIATIVES AND UPDATES IN MICHIGAN

Level 17

Friday, November 8

Continued

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

**CREATING A SUSTAINABLE
HEALTHY TOMORROW: THE
MAGIC OF INCLUSIVE SCHOOL
NUTRITION (FOCUS GROUP)**

Northwoods

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

MDE GENERAL SESSION W/USDA
Michigan Ballroom

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

PLATED LUNCH
Michigan Ballroom

1:45 PM - 2:30 PM

**TADA! YOU HAVE AN EXCESS FUND
BALANCE...NOW WHAT?**
Michigan GH

1:45 PM - 2:30 PM

FARM TO SCHOOL - YOU CAN DO IT!
Michigan EF

An open house of informal conversations with food service directors who are doing creative things to serve fresh, Michigan grown foods to their students. Win a prize for completing the best practices scavenger hunt!

1:45 PM - 2:30 PM

**MEETING MEAL NEEDS DURING
RAMADAN**
Director's Room

1:45 PM - 2:30 PM

**NEXSYS - ACCESS, APPLICATIONS,
ACCOUNTING**
Council Room

1:45 PM - 2:30 PM

**LEARN MORE ABOUT CONSORTIA:
MOR**
Club Room

1:45 PM - 2:30 PM

SUMMER EBT 2025
Level 17

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM

**SPELLBINDING SPENDING-
MASTERING ALLOWABLE COSTS
AND INTERNAL CONTROLS**
Michigan GH

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM

MEAL CLAIMS 101
Director's Room

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM

FFVP GRANTEE MEETING
Council Room

2:45 PM - 3:30 PM

**SFSP: RURAL NON-CONGREGATE
RECAP**
Club Room

Friday, November 8

Continued

2:45 PM - 3:15 AM

**A CONVERSATION ABOUT
GEOGRAPHIC PREFERENCE AND
LOCAL PURCHASING**

Level 17

3:30 PM - 6:00 PM

FARM TO SCHOOL MARKETPLACE

Michigan EF

Join us for a regional marketplace event that focuses on meeting the needs of school food service buyers by networking with farmers and local food suppliers to find the right fit.

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

WELCOME RECEPTION

Michigan Ballroom



Saturday

November 9

SNAM Education Series

6:00 AM - 7:00 AM

STEPS WELLNESS ACTIVITY

Rom TBD

6:30 AM - 1:00 PM

REGISTRATION OPEN

Rom TBD

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Michigan Ballroom

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

GENERAL SESSION & KEYNOTE

SPEAKER - BEN WHITING

Michigan Ballroom

Create a Limitless Culture

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM

**TRANSFORMATION: CREATING
TRANSFORMATION IN YOURSELF,
YOUR STAFF AND YOUR
DEPARTMENT**

Tower A

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM

MAGIC DUST - SPICE BARS

Tower B

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM

**EVERY MAGICIAN NEEDS
TRUSTED ASSISTANTS - LOOK NO
FURTHER THAN OUR BROKERS
AND VENDORS**

Tower C

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM

**DEMYSTIFYING ALLERGIES IN
SCHOOLS**

Overview of best practices in the cafeteria & classrooms for our students with allergies

Peninsula A

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM

**INTO THE CRYSTAL BALL
LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION -**

Creating a vision for change and empowering employees

Mackinac A

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM

BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD

Mackinac BC

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM

**VOILÀ - GSRP MEAL PATTERNS
AND MEAL SERVICE**

Level 17

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

GEMINIO

Tower A

Need to multiply your team? This session will provide tips and tools to maximize staff and innovative ways to recruit and retain staff.

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

**PRESTO CHANGO - T'S NOT ABOUT
THE FOOD**

Tower B

Connecting with students in the cafeteria and classroom.

Saturday, November 9

Continued

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Tower C

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM
**CREATING MAGIC WITH
COMMUNITY PARTNERS**
Peninsula A

Join this session centered around developing partnerships with area agencies to enhance and promote Child Nutrition Programs.

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM
ENCHANTING YOUNG MINDS
Mackinac A

Utilize grants such as the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program to entice and educate your students.

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Mackinac BC

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM
**SPELLBOUND - PRESCHOOL MENUS
& SNACKS**
Level 17

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM
NETWORKING & SNACK BREAK
Room TBD

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
**RIDACTO - OPEN FORUM FOR
DIRECTORS TO INTERACT AND
DISCUSS RELEVANT ISSUES**
Tower A

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Tower B

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Tower C

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
**POTIONS 101 - SELF CARE AND
MENTAL HEALTH**
Peninsula A

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
**MAGIC HAT TRICKS - RETAINING
STAFF BY INVESTING IN THEM**
Mackinac A

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Mackinac BC

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM
**EDUCATING GRSP CLASSROOM
STAFF ON PROGRAM
REQUIREMENTS & BEST
PRACTICES**
Level 17

12:15 PM - 1:30 PM
**EXHIBIT SHOW - DIRECTOR LEVEL
MEMBERS ONLY**
Governors Hall

12:30 PM - 1:15 PM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Tower A

Saturday, November 9

Continued

12:30 PM - 1:15 PM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Tower B

12:30 PM - 1:15 PM
IT'S NOT AN ILLUSION -
RECOGNIZING STUDENT
STRUGGLES
Peninsula A

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
EXHIBIT SHOW - ALL ATTENDEES
Governors Hall

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Room TBD

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Room TBD

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
BREAKOUT SESSION - TBD
Room TBD

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
PRIZED PARTNERS RECEPTION -
DIAMOND/PLATINUM INDUSTRY
PARTNERS & DIRECTOR LEVEL
MEMBERS ONLY
Room TBD

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM
PRESIDENTS RECEPTION -OPEN TO
ALL ATTENDEES
Room TBD

6:30 PM -8:30 PM
DINNER & AWARDS
Michigan Ballroom

8:30 PM - 11:00 PM
ENTERTAINMENT
Michigan Ballroom

Sunday

November 10

Wrap-Up

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM
BREAKFAST BUFFET
Michigan Ballroom

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS &
DOOR PRIZE GIVEAWAY
Michigan Ballroom